Customs station at Pangsau Pass in Arunachal Pradesh

2750. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open up a customs station at Pangsau Pass in Arunachal Pradesh along the Myanmar border, to promote trade with South East Asia and if so, by when; and

(b) whether Government propose to restore Stilwell Road from Ledo in Arunachal Pradesh to Mytikyina in Myanmar, to facilitate trade with ASEAN countries; if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Joint Trade Committee Meeting held on 12.05.2006 has *inter alia* mandated both the Government of India and the Government of Myanmar to initiate necessary action for reviewing of the opening of the third border at Pangsau Pass. However Myanmar side has indicated that creation of infrastructure at Pangsau Pass could take sometime.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration.

Trade between India and China through Nathu La Pass

2751. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) which items are proposed to be traded between India and China through Nathu La Pass; and

(b) what would be the likely benefit to the neighbouring State of Sikkim?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The import and export of the following

locally produced commodities by the people living along both sides of the India-China border as per the prevailing customary practice are allowed freely:—

Imports

1. Goat skins, 2. Sheep skins, 3. Horses, 4. Sheep, 5. Goats, 6. Wool, 7. Silk, 8. Yak Tails, 9. Yak Hair, 10. China Clay, 11. Borax, 12. Szaibelyita, 13. Butter, 14. Goat cashmere (Pasham), 15. salt.

The above items are exempted from duty when imported in India from China through border trade *vide* notification No. 158/94-Custom dt. 29th July, 1994.

Exports

1. Agriculture implements, 2. Blankets, 3. Copper Products, 4. Clothes, 5. Textiles, 6. Cycles, 7. Coffee, 8. Tea, 9. Barley, 10. Rice, 11. Flour, 12. Dry Fruit, 13. Dry and fresh vegetables, 14. Vegetable oil, 15. Gur and Misri, 16. Tobacco, 17. Snuff, 18. Cigarettes, 19. Canned Food, 20. Agro-Chemical, 21. Local Herbs, 22. Dyes, 23. Spices, 24. Watches, 25. Shoes, 26. Kerosene Oil, 27. Stationery, 28. Utensils, 29. Wheat (Ua & Buck)

The border trade through Nathu La includes overland trade and the exchange of commodities by the residents along the border between the Tibet Autonomous Region of China and the State of Sikkim of India. The people of Sikkim living along the border would be able to export to China 29 items mentioned above and they would also be able to import from China 15 items exempted from duty.

Settlement of salt pan lands In Mumbai

2752. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had mooted any proposal to open up salt pan lands for settlement in Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether Government studied the adverse effect of reclamation of coastal land and encroachment of mangroves in this area;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and